A) 2010-2011 SLAM Membership and Composition:

The membership of the Student Life and Media Committee (SLAM) for the 2010-2011 academic year was comprised of:

- **Faculty Members** – Anne Batory, Susan Darby, Linda Gutierrez, Chad Stanley (Chair), and Grace Xiao
- **Student Affairs Representatives** - Mark Allen, Philip Ruthkosky, and Liz Swantek
- **Student Representatives** – Kevin Hopper and Tara Kennedy
- **FAC Representative** – Art Kibbe

The SLAM committee met monthly throughout the academic year as per the FAC-generated schedule for committee meetings: on the third Tuesday of each month, at 11:00AM in Breiseth 110. SLAM member Grace Xiao’s term of service ended at the close of spring 2011. Michael Davidson was elected as a new SLAM member. Dr. Stanley served as SLAM Chair for 2010-2011. At the committee’s final 2011 meeting Dr. Stanley was re-appointed Chair for 2011-2012.

B) 2010-2011 Goals and Objectives:

The committee’s general objectives for the 2010-2011 were to strengthen ties and create even broader dialogue with the organizations on campus that support the Wilkes University student body. This academic year saw a vital increase in the number of administrative representatives attending our monthly meetings, including Philip Ruthkosky (Student Development) and Liz Swantek (Residential Life). The addition of Residential Life representation was suggested in the previous year’s report, and was attained this year. Although there were efforts made in this area, SLAM was unable to secure Student Athletics representation.

Based upon the previous year’s work and areas of concern, supporting Diversity and relevant student campus and educational experiences was a primary focal point for SLAM during 2010-2011.

C) 2010-2011 Topics of Focus:

C1) **Review of SLAM Faculty Handbook Information: Membership, Voting Rights, and Responsibilities:** Early in 2010-2011, and throughout the AY, SLAM reviewed and suggested revisions to Faculty Handbook information regarding this committee, doing so in communication with Faculty Handbook Committee and FAC members. SLAM clarified: committee membership and ex-officio status of additional administrative representatives; member voting rights; committee reporting practices; and online posting duties.

C2) **Posting of Minutes and SLAM Online Presence:** Anne Batory effectively served as the member responsible for the posting of minutes and general webpage maintenance. Meeting
minutes were taken and drafted by Chad Stanley, and were distributed for review and approval in hard copy form within SLAM meetings.

**C3) Involvement with Student Government:** Linda Gutierrez volunteered to be the committee’s Student Government (SG) representative, and Dr. Gutierrez attended SG meetings after the initial fall 2010 SG meetings (which Dr. Batory and then Dr. Stanley attended). In terms of specific activities related to the SG representative role, Dr. Gutierrez provided input regarding SHE building planning, helped facilitate SG involvement in the SRS evaluation form revision process, and closely communicated with SG during their review of the PHA P3 Student Activity Fee petition (see “C12,” below). Additionally, given the inclusion of new administrative representatives within SLAM, who also attend SG meetings, there was a greater and more functional interconnection between SLAM and SG during 2010-2011. Additionally, SLAM members represented faculty at SG and other student events, as available, and the committee devoted time to discussions of faculty-student relations and mentoring.

**C4) Campus Safety and Personal Property Concerns:** SLAM reviewed and discussed, across 2010-2011, Campus Safety issues such as: pedestrian safety; the protection of private property (vehicles); and personal safety concerns.

**C5) Diversity Concerns:** The committee repeatedly discussed: student, faculty, and staff concerns regarding diversity; the experiences of diverse campus populations; and diversity support and programming. The committee, in particular, discussed developments regarding the vacancy (in fall 2010, as continued into spring 2011) of the Center for Global Education and Diversity’s Associate Director of Diversity position. SLAM thanks Dr. Helen Davis for her work in regards to the Safe Space project, and for meeting with our committee.

**C6) Safe Space Project and Training:** In regards to a specific diversity initiative, over 2010-2011 SLAM communicated with those involved in the Safe Space Project (including SLAM members), and discussed the pressing needs for this program and any related LGBT support initiatives.

**C7) The 2010 Student Campus Diversity Survey Results:** SLAM reviewed and discussed the results from this survey, with attention to results of concern that potentially regard LGBT and non-native English speaker populations.

**C8) Student Development and Programming:** Over the AY, the committee and its student representatives discussed student activity programming and how to increase student awareness of and participation in these activities. SLAM also considered needs to balance event scheduling.

**C9) Financial Aid Concerns:** The committee discussed student concerns, from beyond SLAM’s membership, regarding financial aid support, financial aid counseling, and student work-study opportunities.

**C10) Club Advising: Club Advisor Manual, Terms of Service:** SLAM reviewed the *Club Advising Manual* and the Chair communicated with *Faculty Handbook* Committee members to ensure that this advising document would be referenced and that its existence would be more
widely publicized. SLAM also discussed practices regarding club advising, including terms of service for club advisors, risk management in student organizations, and club financial management.

C11) Student Government and Student Organization “Exclusivity” Review: In close communication with SG representatives and executives during spring 2011, SLAM addressed SG’s review and potential revision of the student organization “exclusivity” clause.

C12) The PHA P3 Student Activity Fee Debate: During spring 2011, SLAM and its Chair cooperated with SG and various parties invested in the debate regarding the allocation of student activity fees for PHA P3 students. The SLAM Chair served as moderator/facilitator for a spring 2011 “P3 Student Activity Fee Forum.” Specifically, SLAM discussed the ways in which expectations regarding SG’s funding for professional development programming have evolved, and considered various potential implications regarding various outcomes of the P3 Student Activity Fee debate.

D) Suggestions for the Committee, 2011-2012 Academic Year:

For 2011-2012, SLAM renews its dedication to helping provide Wilkes University students with exceptional educational and co-curricular experiences that deliver upon the institution’s revised Vision, Mission, and Values. Regarding precise 2011-2012 SLAM areas of interest, we identify the need to focus on: diversity programming and support; campus safety; student organization advising; support for Student Government and ensuring its authority; review of financial aid support and student work-study opportunities; student athletics; student activity fee allocation; the status of professional students (such as PHA P3 and P4 students); and the development of the newly-drafted Wilkes University Intellectual Property (IP) Policy.

E) Suggestions to the University, 2011-2012 Academic Year:

E1) Campus Safety: Considering 2010-11 concerns, we suggest that the university dedicate additional resources toward enhancing Campus Safety, utilizing these resources as per the forthcoming findings of the April 2011 campus security assessment.

E2) Diversity and Campus Support for Diversity: We suggest that the university prioritize diversity initiatives, with a particular focus on supporting International Students and any other non-native English speakers, and the LGBT community.

E3) The April 2011 IP Policy Draft: The IP Policy Draft was distributed after our final SLAM meeting, and we have not had the opportunity to discuss this as a committee. As Chair I personally suggest that our institutional IP Policy should represent the most careful and respectful consideration of student rights regarding their ownership of academic work.

F) Closing Comments:

The faculty members of SLAM wish to applaud the Student Affairs, Student Development, and Residential Life representatives for their dedicated involvement with this committee. We welcome Michael Davidson to SLAM for 2011-2012, and we thank Grace Xiao for her history
and quality of service on this committee, and FAC liaison Art Kibbe for advising us. Also, we express our ongoing support for Student Government, and congratulate outgoing SG President Ben Beidel for his exemplary leadership. As re-appointed Chair for 2011-2012, I (and we all) look forward to working closely with the new SG President, Willie Eggleston. Dr. Gutierrez also wishes to thank the SG executive board for her 2010-2011 student “Faculty Choice” award nomination.

Respectfully and dutifully submitted,

William Chad Stanley
Chair, Student Life and Media Committee